

are those who stay at home—women primarily—to nurture their children in their most important formative years. That financial sacrifice should be recognized and redressed by allowing nonworking spouses with young children to better save for later years.

Third, our bill will also allow middle-class taxpayers greater flexibility to withdraw their IRA funds without being subject to the 10 percent penalty in order to pay for expenses for higher or vocational education, to pay catastrophic medical expenses, to start a small business, to buy a first home, or to meet unemployment emergencies. Arguably, wealthier taxpayers don't have commensurate cashflow problems vis a vis their IRA's and should still be encouraged to keep their money in savings.

There is no question that more Americans are confronting daunting educational expenses. At the rate tuition costs continue to rise—at least twice the rate of inflation—4 years at a State university by the year 2000 may cost over \$50,000. Also growing numbers of American workers are returning to classrooms to prepare for midcareer changes or to upgrade existing job skills. This legislation will permit withdrawals for higher education and/or vocational education for many of these Americans who are struggling to put themselves or their children through college.

With health care costs skyrocketing, we simply must find ways to help ease the burden of sudden medical expenses for American working families. A serious illness can be financially devastating to all but the very wealthy. Our bill will allow individuals and families to withdraw IRA funds penalty-free for catastrophic medical expenses during the taxable year to the degree that the amount of such expenses does not exceed 7½ percent of adjusted gross income—that is, the existing threshold for deductibility of medical expenses for itemizers. Individuals could draw upon their IRA's for themselves, spouses, children, and/or parents.

It is also true that most of the new jobs being created are to be found in America's small businesses. Therefore, it should be made easier for entrepreneurial Americans to amass startup capital when they decide to start a new business in midcareer or otherwise.

Finally, our bill also extends a helping hand to unemployed Americans as well as first-time homebuyers.

Let me conclude by underscoring that Progressive Caucus members believe if there is to be tax cut legislation enacted this year that tax relief should be focused upon middle- and low-income taxpayers. Well-to-do individuals and corporations already received disproportionate tax cuts throughout the 1980's.

It is fitting and proper that the tax relief to be provided under our bill is to be financed, at least in part, by taking a first step to cut tens of billions in corporate welfare in the Federal budget—the establishment of a minimum tax on the income of foreign-owned companies earned from business activities in the United States.

MAKING GOVERNMENT WORK IN FALL RIVER

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 1995

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, many more people talk about making Government more efficient than actually doing anything about it. One organization that has done something about it is the housing authority in the city of Fall River, MA. Recently I was privileged to attend a ceremony in which the Fall River Housing Authority announced an agreement among itself, the Citizens Conservation Corporation, the Eastern Utilities Corporation, and HUD which will promote energy conservation, and provide additional funds for the improvement of public housing at no cost to the taxpayers.

The major recipient of these funds will be Cardinal Medeiros Towers, a high-rise development for people with handicaps which was built 24 years ago, and is in need of improvements. This program is an excellent example of how public officials, citizen groups, and private corporate entities can work together for our mutual benefit. Because I was so impressed with this, I asked Richard Viveiros, executive director of the housing authority, to prepare for me a summary of this effort, which I wish to insert at this point in the RECORD. I do so because I hope this will encourage others to emulate the excellent work of Mr. Viveiros and his colleagues. And I want to offer my congratulations to all of those involved.

SUMMARY

On March 20, 1995, the Fall River Massachusetts Housing Authority signed a contract with Eastern Utilities Corporation/Citizens Conservation Corporation [EUA/CCC] enabling both parties to enjoy the benefits of private investment in a public housing authority.

CCC will invest \$2.1 million to implement a host of energy efficiency improvements that will save the authority at least \$7.5 million over the next 15 years. The authority will pay CCC for the cost of design, construction, and legal fees associated with this project out of energy savings projected as \$500,000 per year as a result of improvements to 7 federally aided developments for elderly/disabled.

Cardinal Medeiros Towers, a 208-unit high-rise development for the physically impaired and constructed in 1970, will be the major recipient of the CCC investment. Approximately \$600,000 of CCC moneys is slated for the replacement of an antiquated and inefficient steam heating system with new high-efficiency boilers, which will dramatically improve the comfort level of the building and dramatically reduce energy costs. Other improvements for this facility include new thermostats, new windows, and upgraded exterior lighting.

The 6 other federally aided developments for elderly/disabled will enjoy similar physical improvements and energy savings.

The Fall River Housing Authority experience marks the first time that private money's have been leveraged for public housing energy conservation and physical improvement tasks and was hailed as an avenue for other public housing authorities to consider, in light of dwindling HUD resources.

Both the authority's director, Richard J. Viveiros, and congressman BARNEY FRANK, advocated increasing private/public ventures

as funding alternatives. Viveiros, at a formal, public contract signing ceremony, termed the partnership as a win-win situation for all involved. "There are no losers here," stated viveiros, "CCC gets a reasonable return on its investment, our housing stock is substantially upgraded, and residents enjoy a safer and more comfortable housing environment—all without any governmental funding."

REINTRODUCTION OF THE RECYCLING INCENTIVES ACTS

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 1995

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, 6 years ago, along with the late Senator John Heinz and former Senator Tim Wirth, I introduced a new concept in environmental protection. The idea was simple—use market forces to achieve environmental protection.

My ideas for tire recycling, newspaper recycling, oil recycling and lead acid battery recycling were well received. The bills attracted hundreds of cosponsors. But, unfortunately, no action has been taken on any recycling issues during the past three Congresses.

Today, I am reintroducing each of these four bills with an impressive group of colleagues. Now is the time for Congress to get serious about addressing the country's solid waste problems. Now is the time to begin putting creative solutions to work.

The common approach of these bills represents a radical departure from the traditional approach to environmental policy—that of "command and control." We can no longer afford to commit scarce dollars to environmental programs that either do not work or work only at enormous cost to all of society. The concept of using market forces to achieve environmental goals is gaining influence all over the world. The era of using proactive strategies to develop markets for recycled products has arrived. And the United States needs to get with the program.

Mr. Speaker, our constituents are demanding that we produce results. Join me in demonstrating that those of us committed to sound environmental protection at the least cost to society have produced legislation of which we can be proud.

I invite my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to cosponsor the Tire Recycling Incentives Act, the Newsprint Recycling Incentives Act, the Lead Battery Recycling Incentives Act, and the Used Oil Recycling Incentives Act. Let's do something together that is both economically and environmentally responsible.

VIOLENCE IN KARACHI

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 1995

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak to my colleagues about a great tragedy that is now occurring in Karachi, Pakistan.

Karachi is by far Pakistan's most important city, as well as its largest and wealthiest. It is

the country's only port and therefore accounts for almost two-thirds of its trade and industry. The population of 10 million is a varied one that includes trades of the Karachi Stock Exchange, businessmen affiliated with international firms and over 3,000 United States citizens. Karachi's potential for growth on the international business scene is immense, yet this promise is also tempered by the underlying currents of a troubled society.

Long before two Americans in the U.S. consulate were brutally slain on March 8, violence and terror had gripped this city with a firm chokehold. Since the beginning of 1994, 1,260 people have been murdered, 340 since the start of this year and 100 in the month of March alone. Kidnapings, ambushes, and bank robberies have become a daily occurrence. Worst of all, the city's inhabitants have lost all faith in its frightened police force and corrupt judicial system.

Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto remains confident that the city can and will right itself before it is too late. Unfortunately, she is very much alone, among her countrymen, in thinking that. The Prime Minister is scheduled to visit the United States shortly, where she will undoubtedly plead her case. Karachi, as with all of Pakistan, is in desperate need of foreign investment, and because of the city's present situation, it is losing it far faster than receiving it.

Pakistan is a country with which the United States has had a long history of trade. Their potential for increased economic growth exists, but they will need help in combatting the ugliness that now pervades their coastal city. To achieve this end the Pakistani Government must take firm steps to vanquish the terrorist presence that has now found comfort in this country.

This fact was only illuminated more clearly when Ramzi Ahmed Yousef, the alleged mastermind behind the World Trade Center bombing in 1993, was captured and extradited from Pakistan on February 7. The Government has already begun the cleansing process by targeting Peshawar, in the northwest frontier province, as the home base for most of these terrorist organizations.

When pressure is finally brought to bear upon these elements, Pakistan will be on the road to recovery. It is in the interests of Pakistan and the United States to promote stability and to stamp out terrorism wherever it may take root.

REGARDING UNFAIRNESS OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY EARNINGS TEST

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 1995

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, this week we will have the opportunity to reduce the Social Security earnings test and bring parity to America's work force.

This obsolete tax punishes senior citizens simply because they take the initiative to work in their retirement years to supplement their Social Security income. Furthermore, the earnings test is detrimental to America's workplace. It deprives the work force of the talents of our most experienced laborers.

The earnings test stands as a monument to the decline of the work ethic upon which this

Nation was founded. At a time when we are asking Americans to take more responsibility for their personal welfare, we cannot allow this Depression-era tax to continue to exist.

The mechanics of the earnings test are simple, but it is founded upon no sound principle. The Federal Government instructs men and women between 65 and 69 years of age that if they earn more than \$11,280 in a year, they will face an additional 33-percent tax. When combined with the 7.65-percent FICA withholding tax and a 15-percent Federal income tax, hard-working, low-income seniors are burdened with an effective marginal tax rate of 55.65 percent. The earnings test is wrong, counterproductive, and should be abolished.

A key element to H.R. 1215 is the incremental increase of the earnings test threshold to \$30,000 per year over a 5-year period. While it does not eliminate the earnings test, H.R. 1215 is a positive step toward ending this substantiated bias against working seniors and I encourage my colleagues to support it.

I would also encourage my colleagues to work toward a full repeal of the earnings test, such as that introduced by Representative HOWARD COBLE in H.R. 201. Both the reduction of the earnings test and its full repeal are important elements in our covenant with America's seniors.

THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF BRITH SHOLOM

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 1995

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Brith Sholom, on the occasion of its 90th anniversary.

As a representative of Philadelphia, the cradle of American liberty, I am proud to call the attention of the House of Brith Sholom, the only national membership organization in the Jewish community. Brith Sholom was founded in the very shadow of Independence Hall in 1905 and still maintains a vigorous program dedicated to humanitarian service and the strengthening of our democratic institutions.

Established in response to the immigration of large numbers of individuals fleeing persecution and oppression and drawn by the freedom and opportunities of America, Brith Sholom played a major role in helping to transform a predominately immigrant community into a fully integrated mainstream American community. Since that time, Brith Sholom has made significant contributions to the welfare of all citizens, regardless of race or religion.

Brith Sholom has given generously to its country and community, including a 65-acre tract of land for the establishment of Eagleville Sanatorium, a cardiovascular and pulmonary research laboratory at Hahnemann Hospital by Brith Sholom women, and the Brith Sholom Cancer Research Laboratory at the Albert Einstein Medical School of Yeshiva University. The organization has also founded and maintained the Brith Sholom House, an apartment complex for senior citizens in Philadelphia.

The generosity and commitment of Brith Sholom also extend beyond the borders of our Nation. The organization founded the Brith Sholom Beit Halochem in Haifa, Israel, a rehabilitation, social, and recreational center for Is-

rael's permanently disabled war veterans. Prior to World War II, a successful Brith Sholom mission rescued 50 Viennese Jewish children, ages 5 to 14, from certain death, bringing them to Camp Sholom near Collegeville, PA, where they were housed, clothed, fed, and educated.

Faithful to the traditions of our national American heritage and Hebraic values of social justice and responsibility to our society, Brith Sholom looks forward to the next 90 years of service. Mr. Speaker, I ask that Members of the House join me in saluting Brith Sholom's officers and members and wishing them success in their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO MAJ. GEN. GARRY A. SCHNELZER, USAF

HON. DAVE WELDON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 1995

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, a friend of the Congress and a long time leader in this nation's space and ballistic missile defense programs is retiring from the U.S. Air Force on March 31 of this year, Maj. Gen. Garry Schnelzer. His most recent position has been as the Air Force program executive officer for space, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, Washington, DC. In this position, he has provided program management for the development and procurement of the major Air Force space and launch systems and Air Force ballistic missile defense programs.

General Schnelzer has had a long and distinguished career of over 30 years of military service. After being commissioned through the Bowling Green State University Reserve Officer Training Corps as a distinguished graduate in July 1964, he started his military career by successfully completing pilot training at Laughlin Air Force Base, TX. He served in a variety of flying duties cumulating over 3,300 flying hours and completing over 300 combat missions in Vietnam. For his valor, courage and heroism, he received a Distinguished Flying Cross with oak leaf cluster, Air Medal with 17 oak leaf clusters and the Vietnam Service Medal with two service stars. Following his tour in Vietnam, General Schnelzer embarked on a mixture of flying and development and acquisition tours, which included assignments to the Cambridge Research Laboratories, as a C-130 pilot at Dyess Air Force Base, and as a program manager for the successfully demonstrated antisatellite weapon system. He then held a string of jobs of increasing responsibility with the Strategic Defense Initiative Organization ending as deputy director [acting]. Following a short assignment at Los Angeles Air Force Base as special assistant launch matters, he assumed his current position in February 1990.

Due directly to his efforts, the nation has seen its space heavy launch capability restored, the deployment of the Global Positioning System, the launch of the first Milstar satellite and the initiation of an advanced space based missile detection and warning system. These systems are the force multipliers which ensured our dominance in Desert Storm and